

REMARKS

The Advisory action mailed 23 July 2004, has been received and its contents carefully noted. Claims 1-5, 7, 9, 10, 14-17 and 24-36 were pending. By this amendment, the claims have been amended as suggested by the Examiner in order to place the claims in a condition for allowance. Specifically, SEQ ID NOs:3, 5, 7 and 10 have been canceled and claim 25 has been amended to change "having" to "comprising". Support may be found in the specification generally and the claims as originally filed. No statutory new matter has been added. Therefore, entry of the claims as amended is respectfully requested.

On or about 23 July 2004, the Examiner called the Applicants representative and indicated that he either had to reopen prosecution or mail an Advisory action in view of the prior art and an indefiniteness issue regarding new claims 25-26. During the telephone conversation, the Examiner indicated that he would consider a Supplemental Amendment which would place the claims in a condition for allowance. Applicants appreciate the Examiner's consideration and help.

In the Advisory action, the Examiner indicated that "unless and until applicant cancels the above sequences from claim 1 and 5, the previous rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) and (e) apply and are maintained". The Examiner also indicated that in claim 25, "having" was unclear and requested that Applicants amend to make clear whether it means "comprising" or "consisting of".

In order to further prosecution, Applicants have amended the claims as suggested by the Examiner. Since the claims as amended are in an allowable condition, Applicants respectfully request entry of the amendment.

Applicants maintain their right to pursue any canceled and nonelected subject matter in continuing applications.

Applicants greatly appreciate the Examiner's assistance in the prosecution of this case and look forward to receiving a Notice of Allowance.

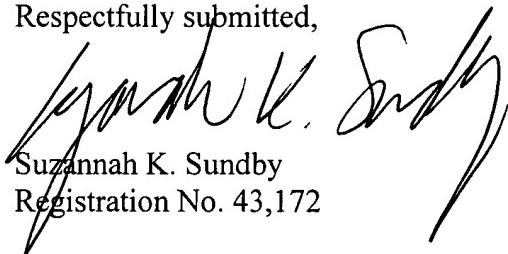
Applicants note that no additional extensions of time are necessary since a one-month Petition for an Extension of Time and a Notice of Appeal was filed on 23 July 2004.

CONCLUSION

All of the stated grounds of objection and rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

It is not believed that extensions of time are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in accompanying documents. If, however, extensions of time under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 other than those otherwise provided for herewith are required to prevent abandonment of the present patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned, and any fees therefor are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 210-380, Attorney Docket No. 034047.016US (RIID 01-58).

Respectfully submitted,



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